



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

FILE NUMBER: 100-4712

PART: 4 OF 19



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT America First Committee

FILE NO. 100-4712

SECTION NO. 4

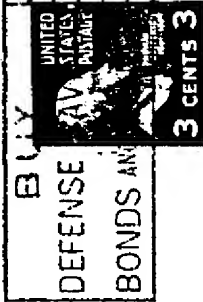
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ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

0 American Fund Committee



F.B.I.

WASHINGTON.

D.C.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/7/86 BY SP6bjp/ky

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 SEP 28 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Nazis LEADERS OF America



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1

CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO. 100-3249

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	DATE WHEN MADE 9-24-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/19, 23/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7C dp
TITLE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, LOS ANGELES AREA			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY "G"
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Articles of Incorporation filed with Secretary of State, California, on January 23, 1941, reflect certain organizations advocate preparedness and isolation. Its Southern California Committee is composed of substantial citizens. No evidence of subversive activities. Names of national and local officials listed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/7/86 BY SP-6 bja/ky</p> <p>Details:</p> <p>A review of the file on this case disclosed that on January 24, 1941 an article appeared in the Los Angeles Times, dated January 23, 1941, Sacramento, California, which article stated that on that day the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, a Los Angeles patriotic organization opposed to "legislation empowering the President to lend, lease, give or otherwise dispose of" defense materials, filed articles of incorporation January 23, 1941 with the Secretary of State.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] on February 19, 1941, the following report was submitted to this Office:</p> <p>"An examination was made of the articles of incorporation filed by the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, Los Angeles, in the Office of the Secretary of State of the</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W J Ford</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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		INDEXED RECORDED	

State of California, on January 23, 1941.

"The articles of incorporation are as follows:

"ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE indorsed and filed in the Office of the Secretary of State, State of California, January 23, 1941.

"Article 2: The purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

"A: To organize and to give effective voice to the vast number of Californians who agree with the tenets of the America First movement and who wish to add their strength to the mounting will of Americans everywhere against involvement in foreign wars.

"B: To preserve American democracy, which purpose can be accomplished only by keeping the United States out of the present European war and all other foreign wars.

"C: To support a program for the building of an impregnable defense for America.

"D: To oppose all subversive groups whose programs attempt to involve the United States in foreign wars, or entangling alliances.

"E: To oppose the use of American troops for any purpose other than the defense of the Americas and our possessions against armed attack.

"F: To oppose repeal of the Neutrality Act. To oppose repeal of the Johnson Act, and to oppose passage of any bill permitting American vessels to enter the combat zone of the European war.

"G: To oppose passage of any legislation for the disposition of equipment or materials vital to American defense to foreign nations, and to oppose legislation empowering the President to lend, lease, give or otherwise dispose of such equipment and materials in his sole discretion.

"H: To oppose any legislation or executive acts by the President or any future administration, tending to impair or destroy the Civil liberties guaranteed to American citizens by the constitution of the United States.

"I: Non-profit corporation.

"J: To appoint any paid officers, agents or employees of the corporation.

"ARTICLE 3: Los Angeles County to be the principal office, to be located _____

"ARTICLE 4: Directors of the corporation.

"ARTICLE 5: No limitation upon number of members of the incorporation. Only

"A: Shall be American citizens

"B: Have no affiliation with German-American Bund or Communist Party, or any affiliations of either, or any official or semi-official propaganda instrumentality of any foreign nation whatsoever.

"ARTICLE 6: The determinations of all matters of policy, election of officers, and financial control, shall be invested in a Board of Directors, and any vacancies occurring in Board of Directors shall be filled by majority vote of remaining directors.

"The national headquarters of this organization is located at 1812 Board of Trade Bldg., Chicago, Illinois. General ROBERT E. WOOD, acting chairman. The National Committee is composed of 27 members, and the following are some of the names listed:

"MRS. BENNETT CHAMP CLARK
IRVING S. COBB
BISHOP WILBUR E. HAMMAKER
GENERAL THOMAS HAMMOND

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON
ALICE ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH
CAPT. EDWIN RICKENBACKER
MRS. BURTON K. WHEELER.

"The principles of this organization are given as follows:

"1. The United States must build an impregnable defense for America. With such a defense no foreign power, or group of powers, can successfully attack us.

"2. With proper safeguards for the distribution of supplies and the maintenance of our neutrality, Americans should, to the limit of their ability, give humanitarian aid

to the suffering and needy people of England and the occupied countries.

"3. The cash and carry provisions of the existing Neutrality Act are essential to American peace and security. Within the limits of that Act Americans may properly aid Great Britain. Aid to her beyond the limitations of the present Neutrality ACT would weaken our defense at home, and might well involve us in conflict. We oppose any change in the law which would permit American vessels to enter the combat zone or which would permit the American navy to convoy merchant ships through that zone, as any such course would inevitably plunge this country into Europe's war.

"4. Americans should and do cherish the ideals of democracy and abhor dictatorship, but the welfare of one hundred thirty million Americans and the preservation of democracy on this continent demand that the United States keep out of foreign wars.

"The subsidiary objectives are listed as follows:

"1. To bring together all Americans regardless of possible differences on other matters, who see eye to eye on these principles (this does not include Nazis, Fascists or Communists).

"2. To urge Americans to keep their heads amid rising hysteria in times of crises.

"3. To provide sane national leadership for the majority of the American people who want to keep out of the European war.

"4. To register this opinion with the President and with Congress.

[REDACTED]

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"Although this organization may have the sympathetic endorsement of some so-called front organizations, we were unable to find any indication that they are anything but patriotic,

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sincere, Americans, with no thought of subversive activities."

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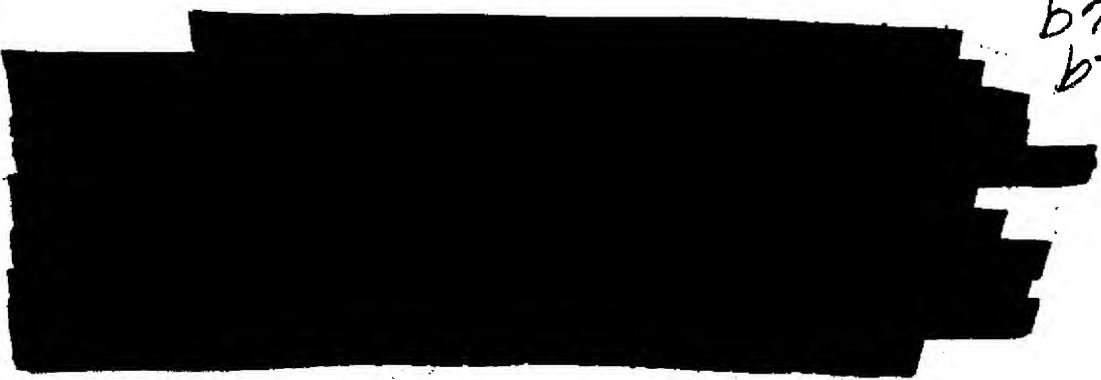
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Although various Nazi sympathizers in the Los Angeles area are known to have attended meetings of various AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Southern California, there is no evidence that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in itself is engaged in subversive activities.

On August 25, 1941, a communication was received from FREDERIC A. CHASE, Executive Secretary of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, located at 3142 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 5, Los Angeles, California, telephone Federal 1168, which letter stated that by authorization of the executive Board of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE of Southern California, they were asking all officers, employees and representatives of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE or its chapters to fill out a questionnaire, which will be retained in the confidential files of the COMMITTEE, and has for its purpose to provide information whereby competent investigation can be made if necessary.

CHASE stated the organization had already checked with the files of the Los Angeles Police Department on chapter officers and with the exception of one case no question had been raised as to the loyalty of any individual. He stated they were checking further on this particular individual.

CHASE stated that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE is pledged to the maintenance of American institutions and specifically bars from membership any person who belongs to any subversive organization, and that in the event this Office wished to conduct an investigation of any individual of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE the questionnaires setting forth confidential information would be available to this Office upon request.

- C L O S E D -

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

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August 29, 1941

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MEMORANDUM

RE: THE AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

5/8/86
Classified by *P. G. J. J. J.*
Declassify on: OADR

The America First Committee was incorporated under the Not for Profit Laws of the State of Illinois on September 19, 1940. The purposes of the committee as outlined in its charter are to encourage and maintain in the United States of America:

1. Peace and the Democratic ideal.
2. A program of adequate defense.
3. A furtherance of peace in this continent, a policy of non-intervention in the affairs of other continents and to encourage the giving of help to refugees and the needy in other lands insofar as such help does not endanger the peace in the United States.

The America First Committee has advertised itself as being "non-partisan organization of loyal and patriotic men who believe:

1. The United States must build an unbreakable national defense.
2. No foreign power nor group of powers can ever successfully invade a prepared America.
3. Our Government sending men of its own, ships, planes and materials of war to a belligerent overseas dangerously weakens our defense at home and threatens to involve America in war abroad.
4. Our American Democratic liberties can only be preserved by keeping out of foreign wars in Europe or in Asia."

The national headquarters of the America First Committee is located at 1806 Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois. A local headquarters is maintained in Washington, D. C., at 1010 Vermont Avenue, N. W. There is a total of 586 local chapters and affiliated units of the America First Committee throughout the United States.

The following is a list of the officers and Directors of the America First Committee with the background as to each individual.

Summary Memorandum

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FOI/PA # 262359
APPEAL #
CIVILACT. #
E.O. # 12336
DATE 3/18/16 INITIALS *Key*

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Acting Chairman - General ROBERT E. WOOD, 925 S. Roman Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; graduate of West Point and served many years as officer in the United States Army; presently Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sears Roebuck and Company.

National Director and Secretary - R. DOUGLAS STUART, JR., 141 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois; graduate of Yale University and studied three years in the Yale Law School before terminating his study to become associated with the America First Committee; is the son of R. Douglas Stuart of the Quaker Oats Company.

Treasurer -

J. STANFORD OYIS, Vice-President of the Central Republic Bank of Chicago.

Board of Directors

HANFORD MAC NIDER - Mason City, Iowa; presently a banker; former National Commander of the American Legion; former Assistant Secretary of War, 1925 to 1928; served with the United States Army in France during the World War and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on May 6, 1919; received Croix de Guerre - five citations; also connected with various civic organizations.

GENERAL THOMAS HANFORD -

Retired United States Army Officer; president of Whiting Corporation, manufacturers of cranes and foundry equipment, Harvey, Illinois; served with United States Army in World War; chairman of Republican Party in Illinois.

J. C. RONDEL -

Formerly with George A. Ronnel and Company Packers, Austin, Minnesota.

CLAY JUDOCK -

Attorney, 120 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois; associated with the law firm of Wilson and Melvaine; former president of Chicago Council of Foreign Relationships; member of Board of Trustees of United Charities, Chicago, and president of Board of Trustees, Frances Parker School, Chicago.

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which is a well-known private school.

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In addition to the above Officers, the following are members of the America First Committee:

DR. ARTHUR JULIUS CARLSON-

Professor of University of Chicago; Reported to be an international pacifist; has studied in Moscow, U.S.S.R.; considered an extreme liberal; was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Sanitary Corps, United States Army in 1917 and was with the American Expeditionary Force from March to September, 1919.

WILLIAM R. CASTLE, JR.-

Former Assistant Secretary of State; former Ambassador to Japan.

IRVIN S. COES-

Nationally known speaker and author.

JANE AYER FAIRBANKS-

Active in cause of women suffrage and politics; former member of the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee; was a member of the Women's National Liberty Loan Committee during the World War; has written several books.

JOHN T. FLYNN-

Noted economist and writer; wrote "Country Squire in the White House."

HENRY FORD-

Automobile manufacturer.

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON-

Nationally known retired Army officer.

ALICE ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH-

Daughter of the late President Theodore Roosevelt.

THOMAS N. MC CARTER-

Attorney General of New Jersey, 1902 to 1907, which post he resigned to become president of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey, which operates and controls nearly all of the gas, electric and transportation utilities in New

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Jersey; director of Chase National Bank, New York City; Federal Union Trust Company, Newark, New Jersey; American Surety Company; American Super Paper Corporation and United Gas Improvement Company.

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CAPTAIN EDWARD RICKENBACKER-

Nationally known aviation figure.

LOUIS J. TABER-

Nationally known for his work in connection with agricultural developments.

DR. GEORGE H. WHIPPLE-

Nationally known pathologist.

The following persons, who are nationally known, are also members of this Committee:

Mrs. Bennett Champ Clark
Bishop W. E. Rasmaker
Kathryn Lewis
Sterling Morton
Edward L. Ryerson, Jr.
Mrs. Burton E. Wheeler.

The America First Committee is reported to be financed solely by voluntary contributions by those interested in the organization. The Committee conducted a radio broadcast on October 21, 1940, at which time the radio announcer requested his listeners to send anything from dimes to dollars to the America First Committee, Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois, and this same request was made following numerous other broadcasts.

The Committee has also issued a card called "America First Committee Contribution Card," bearing the following:

"I am convinced that we can preserve our American Democracy only by keeping out of foreign war. Therefore I am contributing \$_____ to support the work of the America First Committee."

On October 21, 1940, Hootie Carter was sponsored in a transcription program of Station WHIO, Chicago, Illinois, by the America First Committee. In this broadcast Carter explained that the Committee was dedicated to aid America first and later to aid Britain. Following the transcription, the announcer suggested that the listeners write their congressmen and senators demanding that they prevent the United States' intervention into the war and

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that they arm America before aiding Britain and also requesting the audience to send in anything from dimes to dollars to the America First Committee, Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois.

A confidential informant stated that the America First Committee was started by General Wood in cooperation with the other members of the Committee and that although the Committee's viewpoints in connection with the United States' present policy in foreign affairs is different from that of the administration, he is of the opinion that the Committee originally had a few persons in it who were what he termed "left-wingers" and according to him are not to be considered Communistic.

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On December 18, 1940, the America First Committee sponsored a rally in Orchestra Hall, Chicago, Illinois, at which rally 3500 persons attended and several thousand were turned away.

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Information received from a confidential source, reveals that on January 16 the office of the America First Committee was opened on Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and it was observed that the automobile of Dr. Georg Gyssling, German Consul was parked in front of the building during that day. The informant related that this car had never been seen there previously and has not been seen there since that time.

The America First Committee has published an enormous amount of propaganda literature concerning the aims of the Committee and has circulated this literature throughout the United States. The apparent object of the literature is to crystallize American opinion to prevent the entrance of the United States into European wars and to villify the foreign affairs program of President Roosevelt. The numerous pamphlets published by the Committee state that 86% of the people of the United States are opposed to the United States intervening in foreign wars. These pamphlets fail to make any explanation as to how the figure of 86% was arrived at. This literature also makes an appeal to American mothers to aid the Committee for the purpose of preventing

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their sons from being embroiled in another European war. The foreign program of President Roosevelt is termed "the road to war" by the literature emanating from this committee.

Friends of Democracy, Incorporated, L. M. Birkhead, National Director, with National headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, published a pamphlet entitled the "America First Committee, the Nazi Transmission Belt." This pamphlet alleges the America First Committee whether its members know it or not and whether they like it or not is a Nazi front organization and is a transmission belt by means of which the apostles of Nazism are spreading their anti-Democratic ideas into millions of American homes. This pamphlet also charges that Adolf Hitler and his disciples in the United States are using the America First Committee to spread Fascist and Nazi propaganda.

Information received from a confidential source discloses that on February 4, 1941, Paul von Gontard entertained John Wheeler and his wife Helene Albright Wheeler, the son and daughter-in-law of Senator Wheeler. During the course of the conversation at the party, Mrs. Wheeler stated while attacking the contemplated Lend Lease Bill, also opposed by the America First Committee, that the "only way we can be safe is to see the pins knocked out from under Britain." The informant who furnished this information stated that such a remark indicated that she had become imbued with pro-German sentiment because of her association with various individuals, including Dr. Adolph Spreckles, Miss Josephine Alderman, and one Hans Wolfram, all of whom are suspected of German espionage. It will be noted that Hans Wolfram has done publicity work for the German Embassy. (S-1)(C) u

At this party Mr. Paul von Gontard who is also suspected of German espionage displayed a cashier check for \$2,000 drawn on a St. Louis, Missouri bank, which he turned over to Mr. John Wheeler as a contribution to the America First Committee. (S-1)(C) u

100-4712-7X

Information has been received that the America First Committee has caustically criticized the William Allen White Committee. The America First Committee is reported as attempting to secure the support of any and all organizations including the Coughlinite Social Justice Group. The news vendors of Coughlin's Social Justice in New York City appeared upon the streets displaying America First Committee buttons. (100-4712-5X)

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The financial support of the America First Committee seemingly evolves from voluntary contributions and in connection with the financing of this Committee attention is directed to the financial positions held by:

General Robert E. Wood
R. Douglas Stuart, Jr.
J. Sanford Ohio
Sanford MacKider
General Thomas Hammond
J. C. Normal
Clay Jackson
Wm. R. Castle
Henry Ford
Alice Roosevelt Longworth
Thomas W. McCarter

(100-4712-18)

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Information received from Edwin S. Webster, General Secretary of America First Committee, 49 East 53 Street, New York City discloses that a New York Chapter of this Committee has between 15,000 and 20,000 members. Webster claims that none but an American citizen can become a member of this Committee. (100-4712-21)

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A leaflet distributed in February, 1941, by the German American National Alliance urged the recipient of the leaflet to write to two senators advocating the defeat of the Lend Lease Bill and to send financial contributions to the America First Committee. (61-10498-444)

On February 25, 1941, the Chicago Tribune carried an article relating that the America First Committee had assigned speakers to cover down-state communities in Illinois for the purpose of creating opposition to the Administration Bill. It was stated that Walter F. Boye who, during the summer of 1938, had toured the German Reich and who had returned to the United States with glowing accounts of Nazi accomplishments and praise of

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Hitler's ideology was one of these speakers. It was indicated that Boye's line of argument in his speaking tour would take the form of "placing such terrific power in the President's hands." (100-0-5003)

The Philadelphia Ledger for April 22, 1941, carried an article stating that the National Legion of Mothers and Women of America contemplated inviting women associated with the Kyffhaeuser Bund into its membership. Mrs. Edith Scott of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania whose organization is affiliated with the America First Committee said the invitation was under consideration by her group.

(100-4712-A)

In the April 14, 1941 issue of the Staten Island Advance an article appeared stating that Howard I. Jump, son of Mrs. Lila Jump, head of the Staten Island unit of the America First Committee, had failed to report for induction as ordered by the local draft board and had been given a formal notice giving him five days in which to change his mind. Jump, twice before, was refused deferment by his local draft board; once on a medical deficiency claim and again on an occupational claim. (100-4712-30X1)

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The News Letter of Los Angeles, California for April 9, 1941, carried an article concerning the America First Committee meeting held at Los Angeles, California, which was addressed by Mrs. Catherine Curtis and Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota. This article related that Mrs. Curtis' experience in rabble rousing is so comprehensive that she might easily qualify as "the top notcher of the petticoat platoon." It was she who founded the Women's National Committee for Hands Off the Supreme Court. She also was active in organizing the Women Investors in America, Incorporated, which organizations make their headquarters at 535 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York. (100-4712-38)

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[REDACTED] (C)
The Washington Times Herald for May 26, 1941, reported that the America First Committee together with the Committee Against War and the Keep America Out of War Congress had made plans for a three-day rally commencing May 30, 1941. The two latter groups are reported to contain a number of Socialists in their ranks. (100-10689-A)

Information received on May 26, 1941, reveals that united German societies held a meeting at the New York Turn Hall at which time the meeting was addressed by Dr. Fleischman, a member of the America First Committee. (61-9879-268)

The activity of the America First Committee reached its peak during the period when it exerted its complete effort to the end of blocking the Lend Lease Bill sponsored by the administration. Thousands of pieces of literature were distributed; numerous meetings were held in the metropolitan areas and the people all over the nation were incited to petition their national representatives to block the passage of this legislation. (100-4712-16)

Two of the largest meetings sponsored by this Committee during that period were held at New York City on May 23, 1941, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 29, 1941, at which meetings approximately 20,000 people attended. Senator Burton Wheeler of Montana, Charles A. Lindbergh, Kathleen Norris and Norman Thomas were the headline speakers at these meetings. The texts of the speeches delivered were concerned with deriding the administration's foreign policy, especially the Lend Lease Bill, which they emphatically criticized as an active step towards entrance of the United States into the European conflict. (100-4712-58-71)

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[REDACTED] (C)

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[REDACTED] (C) (100-4712) b1

Information reported on June 10, 1941, indicates that the America First Committee is supplying the financial support for the publication "Uncensored," which is published by the Keep America Out of War Congress, which organization reportedly contains a number of Socialists in its membership.

[REDACTED] b1

(C)

Information received as of July 28, 1941, discloses that Newton Dillaway of Reading, Massachusetts received numerous communications from the German Library of Information addressed to him as Newton Sillaway, and that after this organization was closed he began to receive literature from the America First Committee addressed to him in the same manner, that is, the same mistake with the spelling of his name, and the stencil printing on the literature received from the America First Committee was identical with that received from the German Library of Information. (100-4712-109)

Information received as of August 7, 1941, disclosed that the American War Committee has a Colored Section headed by J. Finley Wilson, Chairman, and Perry W. Howard, Secretary, with national headquarters at 613 F Street, North West, Washington, D. C. This organization is reported to have distributed literature in colored circles requesting the colored population to petition their national representatives to discourage the United States from entering the European war. (100-4712-112)

Other nationally known figures who have affiliated themselves with the America First Committee are Senator David I. Walsh, Congressman Hamilton Fish, Congressman James Francis O'Connor, Congressman Dewey Short, former Governor Philip LaFollette, and Robert Hutchins, President of the University of Chicago.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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September 3, 1941

100-4712-154

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to your recent request of Mr. Tamm of my office, I am pleased to transmit herewith copy of a memorandum which summarizes available data relative to the America First Committee. I trust that this material will be of some interest and value to you in connection with your study of the activities of this organization.

Sincerely,

Attachment

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RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Drayton
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAIL
SEP 3 1941
F. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

114-4912-14-92
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FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RPK:TD

September 3, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

There is attached a blind memorandum contain-
ing information in our files with respect to The
America First Committee. This is furnished in accord-
ance with your request.

Respectfully,

R. P. Kramer
R. P. Kramer

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R E S O L U T I O N

- WHEREAS, our Country is going through a period of National crisis with a tremendous responsibility and burdens untold placed on the shoulders of our beloved President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and
- WHEREAS, the American Federation of Labor has pledged full cooperation to our President in his recent speech to the citizens of this Country and the world at large, and
- WHEREAS, complete unity of all loyal Americans is vitally essential during these critical times, and
- WHEREAS, attempts are being made by certain so called Isolationists to divide the American people by anti-semitism speeches and every other kind of misleading, contemptible, untrue and unAmerican statements for reasons best known to themselves; but which in our opinion are for the purpose of bringing about a condition of class and religious hatred between the citizens of our country, which if successful may seriously effect the program and policy of our government in protecting the freedom of our people, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, that the Grays Harbor County Central Labor Council in regular meeting assembled this 19th day of September, 1941, go on record condemning the recent speeches and activities of Charles Lindberg, Senator Wheeler and other so called Isolationists, and be it further
- RESOLVED, that we ask the Federal Bureau of Investigation to make a complete and thorough investigation of the aims and objects of the America First Committee and of Charles Lindberg.

Respectfully submitted by your
Resolution Committee

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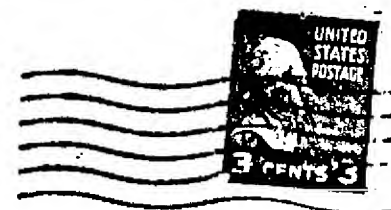
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Red

10/9/41

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY
CENTRAL LABOR UNION
BOX 509 ABERDEEN, WASH.



OFFICE
Federal Bureau Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

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100-4712-155

October 9, 1941

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Grays Harbor County
Central Labor Union
Box 509
Aberdeen, Washington

b7c

Dear Sir:

I desire to acknowledge receipt of the Resolution of the Grays Harbor County Central Labor Council signed by you and bearing the names of [REDACTED]

b7c

Please be advised that the content of your Resolution has been carefully noted and made a matter of permanent record in the official files of this Bureau for such future reference as may be deemed appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
* OCT 9 1941 *
F. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

b7c

Hotel Plymouth

49TH STREET JUST OFF BROADWAY
ADJACENT TO RADIO CITY

New York

73992

5/8/86 SP6 by key #2259
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#247113

September 28, 1941

Mr. Walter Winchell
c/o New York Daily Mirror
New York City

Dear Walter:

Sorry I can't see you in person, but I know you are very busy. So here goes. Do you remember in our time in show business [redacted] he's a comic. He told me that his friend, either a world war veteran or American Legion man who lived in Butte, Montana witnessed something very interesting.

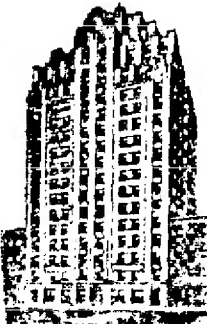
While there, he attended a dinner given by either a Bund or some German society to Senator Wheeler at Butte, and that he was one of the guests. At the conclusion of the dinner, everybody stood up and gave three "Heil Hitler" cheers and salute, and right in front doing the same very nicely, was Wheeler.

Walter, if this is true, which I'm sure it is, and can be checked, it's a great feather in your cap to expose that rat. What I'd suggest is to get in touch with [redacted] and in turn have him get in touch with his friend. If it sounds good, you can check on it from Butte some way and the rest is easy.

I can get in touch with [redacted] and assure you I will be happy to work with you on this case just for the asking, so if you care to have me start the proceedings, just call on me and I'll do all I can to bring this thing to a head.

Best wishes and lots of good luck. With kind regards

Sincerely,



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FIVE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Newark, New Jersey

October 3, 1941

b7c

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

Dear Sir:

On September 23, 1941, Mr. THOMAS GREGORY, of the America First Committee, Commerce Street, Newark, New Jersey, called at this office suggesting that the Bureau have some agents present at a meeting being held on that same date, September 23, 1941, at Newark, New Jersey, at which Senator GERALD P. NYE was to be the principal speaker.

Mr. GREGORY was advised by Special Agent (A) [REDACTED] that the Bureau had no jurisdiction in the matter of providing protectors or maintaining order at such meetings, and that such protection and order as was necessary should be handled by the local police. Mr. GREGORY then suggested that the Bureau would probably like to have agents present more or less as observers to see exactly what was going on. He suggested that having observers present might be to the benefit of the Bureau in that if any so-called Nazis were present the Bureau might like to observe this firsthand. Agent [REDACTED] again pointed out that this was a matter in which the Bureau did not have jurisdiction and that no agent would be present to furnish protection, maintain order or observe.

The above is being furnished for your information.

Very truly yours,

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DATE 5/8/86 BY SP6bjt/ky

E. E. CONROY
Special Agent in Charge

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